



# 2015 Annual City of Jacksonville Drinking Water Quality Report

## PWS ID# NC0467010 Report issued April 2016

We are pleased to present to you this year's Annual Drinking Water Quality Report. This report is a snapshot of last year's water quality. Included are details about from where your water comes, what it contains, and how it compares to

standards set by regulatory agencies. Our constant goal is to provide you with a safe and dependable supply of drinking water. We want you to understand the efforts we make to continually improve the water treatment process and protect our water resources. We are committed to ensuring the quality of your water and to providing you with this information, because informed customers are our best allies. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water, please contact the Public Services Department at 910-938-5233. We want our valued customers to be informed about their water utility. If you want to learn more, please attend any of the Water and Sewer Advisory Board's regularly scheduled meetings. Meetings are held bi-monthly at City Hall.



### What EPA Wants You to Know

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immune-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline (800-426-4791).

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. [Name of Utility] is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the Safe Drinking Water Hotline or at <http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead>.

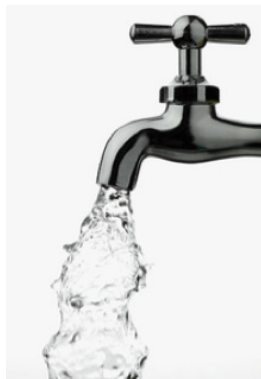
The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs, and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife; inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater runoff, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming; pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses; organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems; and radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water, which must provide the same protection for public health.

### When You Turn on Your Tap, Consider the Source

The City of Jacksonville draws its water from aquifers located deep underground. The City's water is obtained from two groundwater sources. The first source is comprised of two well fields in the Cretaceous Aquifer, one located off Gum Branch Road, and the other off Highway 258. Both well fields are located near Richlands, North Carolina. The 15 wells draw their water from the Upper and Middle Cretaceous Sand Aquifers. This ground water requires no treatment other than the addition of chlorine for disinfection. It contains natural fluoride, essential for dental health, and is naturally soft. The second source consists of 20 wells in the Castle Hayne aquifer. This is a shallower aquifer that produces good quality water, and is treated at the City's Nano-filtration plant.

**Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) Results** - The North Carolina Department of Environment and Natural Resources (DENR), Public Water Supply (PWS) Section, Source Water Assessment Program (SWAP) conducted assessments for all drinking water sources across North Carolina. The purpose of the assessments was to determine the susceptibility of each drinking water source (well or surface water intake) to Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs). The results of the assessment are available in SWAP Assessment Reports that include maps, background information and a relative susceptibility rating of Higher, Moderate or Lower.



The relative susceptibility rating of each source for the City of Jacksonville was determined by combining the contaminant rating (number and location of PCSs within the assessment area) and the inherent vulnerability rating (i.e., characteristics or existing conditions of the well or watershed and its delineated assessment area.). The assessment findings are summarized in the table below:

Susceptibility of Sources to Potential Contaminant Sources (PCSs) - SWAP Date July 2015			
Low Susceptibility Rating	Moderate Susceptibility Rating		
Well #3 - 258 Plant Well #4 - 258 Plant Well #5 - 258 Plant Well #12 - Gum Branch Well #16 - Gum Branch Miracle Meadows #2	Well #1 - 258 Plant Well #2 - 258 Plant Well #11 - Gum Branch Plant Well #13 - Gum Branch Well #14 - Gum Branch Well #15 - Gum Branch Well #17 - Gum Branch Well #18 - Gum Branch Piney Green #1	Well #6, Well #7 Bellfork #1 Chaney's Creek #1 Chaney's Creek #2 Common's North #1 Common's North #2 Common's South #1 Common's South #2 Ramsey Road #1	Business Park #1 Business Park #2 Deer Field #1 Williamsburg Plantation #1 Williamsburg Plantation #2 Parkwood Soccer #1 Drummer Kellum #1 Drummer Kellum #2 Foxhorn Village

The complete SWAP Assessment report for the City of Jacksonville may be viewed on the Web at <http://swap.ncwater.org>. Please note that because SWAP results and reports are periodically updated by the PWS Section, the results available on this web site may differ from the results that were available at the time this CCR was prepared. To obtain a printed copy of this report, please mail a written request to: Source Water Assessment Program – Report Request, 1634 Mail Service Center, Raleigh NC 27699-1634, or email request to [swap@ncmail.gov](mailto:swap@ncmail.gov). Please indicate your system name, PWSID, and provide your name, mailing address and phone number. If you have any questions about the SWAP report please contact the Source Water Assessment staff by phone at 919-715-2633.

It is important to understand that a susceptibility rating of “higher” does not imply poor water quality, only the systems’ potential to become contaminated by PCS’s in the assessment area.

**Water Quality Data Table of Detected Contaminants** - We routinely monitor for over 150 contaminants in your drinking water according to Federal and State laws. The table below lists all the drinking water contaminants that we detected in the last round of sampling for the particular contaminant group. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. Unless otherwise noted, the data presented in this table is from testing done January 1 through December 31, 2015. The EPA or the State requires the City to monitor for certain contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants are not expected to vary significantly from year to year. Regulated Synthetic Organic Contaminants (SOC) and unregulated SOC contaminants were sampled in 2014, Volatile Organic Compounds (VOC) were sampled in 2013, 2014, and 2015, and results of those analyses were all below detection limits.

**Fluoride Level Information** - The City of Jacksonville does not add fluoride to its drinking water; however, fluoride naturally occurs in certain areas. During routine sampling, one sample was slightly above a cautionary level set by EPA. At low levels fluoride can help prevent cavities and is frequently used in toothpaste and other oral dental hygiene products. Children drinking water with higher levels of fluoride can experience cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth. The test revealed that while the one-time sample was above the cautionary level, it was at a level far below the Maximum Contaminant Level set by the US Environmental Protection Agency’s drinking water standard.

The sample with the cautionary alert was taken from a point in the City system which is served by three wells in the US258 area between Jacksonville and Richlands. This same well field is used by ONWASA which also reported a similar finding one time. The water that is drawn by the City from this field represents only about 3% of all the water used in the City’s system within a year’s period of time. Generally water from this field is blended with other water from another well field, and water treated at the City’s water plant.

The Federal limit for fluoride in a drinking water system is 4 mg/l. The test found 2.1 mg/l. A finding above 2 mg/l requires an alert as a caution. The test, required once every three years, was conducted by a certified lab. No other samples have reported levels that high. As indicated, fluoride occurs naturally, and the City does not add fluoride to any water used in the City’s system.

The EPA established the cautionary level, called a Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level to protect against moderate dental fluorosis, a discoloration of tooth enamel. Because the sample found by the City to be within that limit came from a less-used resource, the actual chance of causing dental fluorosis is extraordinarily small. The City has been monitoring the fluoride levels and daily tests the City’s water to ensure it meets safety standards.

# Notice To The Public: Important Information About Your Drinking Water

## The City of Jacksonville Water System Has Levels of Fluoride That Exceed the Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL)

This is an alert about your drinking water and a cosmetic dental problem that might affect children under nine years of age. At low levels, fluoride can help prevent cavities, but children drinking water containing more than 2 milligrams per liter (mg/l) of fluoride may develop cosmetic discoloration of their permanent teeth (dental fluorosis). The drinking water provided by your community water system from one of the City of Jacksonville water sources, located on Hwy 258, has a fluoride concentration of 2.10 mg/l. This source provided only 3 percent of the City's water supply and is blended with water having much lower fluoride levels.

Dental fluorosis, in its moderate or severe forms, may result in a brown staining and or pitting of the permanent teeth. This problem occurs only in developing teeth, before they erupt from the gums. Children under nine should be provided with alternative sources of drinking water or water that has been treated to remove the fluoride to avoid the possibility of staining and pitting of their permanent teeth. You may also want to contact your dentist about proper use by young children of fluoride-containing products. Older children and adults may safely drink the water.

Drinking water containing more than 4 mg/l of fluoride (the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's drinking water standard) can increase your risk of developing bone disease. Your drinking water does not contain more than 4 mg/l of fluoride, but we're required to notify you when we discover that the fluoride levels in your drinking water exceed 2 mg/l because of this cosmetic dental problem.

For more information, please call Joseph Cram of City of Jacksonville Water System at 910-938-6534. Some home water treatment units are also available to remove fluoride from drinking water. To learn more about available home water treatment units, you may call NSF International at 1-877-8-NSF-HELP.

Please share this information with all the other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly (for example, people in apartments, nursing homes, schools, and businesses). You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or distributing copies by hand or mail.

For more information, please contact:

Responsible Person:  
Joseph Cram  
Phone Number:  
910-938-6534

System Name:  
City of Jacksonville  
System PWSID # 04-67-010

System Address (Street):  
177 New Frontier Way  
System Address (City, State, Zip):  
Jacksonville, NC 28540

### Important Drinking Water Definitions:

**Not-Applicable (N/A)** – *Information not applicable/not required for that particular water system or for that particular rule.*

**Non-Detects (ND)** - *Laboratory analysis indicates that the contaminant is not present at the level of detection set for the particular methodology used.*

**Parts per million (ppm) or Milligrams per liter (mg/L)** - *One part per million corresponds to one minute in two years or a single penny in \$10,000.*

**Parts per billion (ppb) or Micrograms per liter (ug/L)** - *One part per billion corresponds to one minute in 2,000 years, or a single penny in \$10,000,000.*

**Picocuries per liter (pCi/L)** - *Picocuries per liter is a measure of the radioactivity in water.*

**Action Level (AL)** - *The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.*

**Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)** - *The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.*

**Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG)** - *The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. LGs allow for a margin of safety.*

**Secondary Maximum Contaminant Level (SMCL):** *Non-enforceable guidelines regarding chemicals that may cause cosmetic or aesthetic effects in drinking water. EPA recommends these secondary standards but does not require water-supply systems to comply.*



City of Jacksonville Nanofiltration  
Water Treatment Plant

# Water Quality Data Table of Detected Contaminants (See Definitions Section)

## Microbiological Contaminants 2015- 50 monthly samples – 600 annual samples

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Total Coliform Bacteria (presence or absence)	N	2%	0	5% of monthly samples are positive	Naturally present in the environment
Fecal Coliform or E. coli (presence or absence)	N	0	0	0 (Note: The MCL is exceeded if a routine sample and repeat sample are total coliform positive, and one is also fecal coliform or E. coli positive)	Human and animal fecal waste

## Nitrate/Nitrite Contaminants November 2015

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Nitrate (as Nitrogen) (ppm)	N	<1.0	N/A	10	10	Runoff from fertilizer use; leaching from septic tanks, sewage; erosion of natural deposits

## Lead and Copper Contaminants –June 2014 – 30 samples

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	Your Water	% of sites above the AL	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Copper (ppm) (90th percentile)	2014	0.071	0	1.3	AL=1.3	Corrosion of household plumbing systems; erosion of natural deposits; leaching from wood preservatives
Lead (ppb) (90th percentile)	2014	<3	1	0	AL=15	Corrosion of household plumbing systems, erosion of natural deposits

## Radiological Contaminants 2011 – due 2016

Contaminant (units)	Sample Date	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Alpha emitters (pCi/L)	2011	N	<3	0	15	Erosion of natural deposits
Beta/photon emitters (pCi/L)	2011	N	6.1	0	50*	Decay of natural and man-made deposits
Combined radium (pCi/L)	2011	N	<1	0	5	Erosion of natural deposits
Uranium (pCi/L)	2011	N	<0.67	0	20.1	Erosion of natural deposits

\* Note: The MCL for beta particles is 4 mrem/year. EPA considers 50 pCi/L to be the level of concern for beta particles.

## Disinfectant Residuals Summary

	Year Sampled	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Chlorine (ppm)	2015	N	1.05	0.20 - 2.08	4	4.0	Water additive used to control microbes

## Stage 2 Disinfection Byproduct Compliance - Based upon Locational Running Annual Average (LRAA)

Disinfection Byproduct	Year Sampled 2015	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water (highest LRAA)	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
TTHM (ppb)					N/A	80	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B01		N	41	35 - 52			
B02		N	45	36 - 55			
B03		N	38	32 - 48			
B04		N	39	34 - 46			
HAA5 (ppb)					N/A	60	Byproduct of drinking water disinfection
B01		N	15	11 - 20			
B02		N	14	11 - 15			
B03		N	14	11 - 19 10 -16			
B04		N	15				

## Inorganics Contaminants March 2014

Contaminant (units)	MCL Violation Y/N	Your Water	Range Low High	MCLG	MCL	Likely Source of Contamination
Fluoride (ppm)	N	1.02	0.1 - 2.1	4	4	Erosion of natural deposits; water additive which promotes strong teeth; discharge from fertilizer and aluminum factories
Sodium(ppm)	N	132	32 - 199	N/A	N/A	
Sulfate(ppm)	N	30	<15	250	250	
pH(pH units)	N		7.80 - 8.65	N/A	N/A	

